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Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Macroeconomic policy questions

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 6 November 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of Georgia and Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the joint Kazakh-Georgian communiqué on the visit of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Nurlan Balgimbaev, to Tbilisi on 21 and 22 October 1998 (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33, 91, 93 and 155.

(*Signed*) Peter P. **Chkheidze**
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Permanent Representative
of Georgia to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Akmaral Kh. **Arystanbekova**
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Annex

[Original: Russian]

Communiqué issued on 22 October 1998 on the outcome of the visit of the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan to Georgia

On 21 and 22 October 1998, the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, Mr. N. U. Balgimbaev, made an official visit to Georgia. During his visit, he engaged in talks with the President of Georgia, Mr. E. A. Shevardnadze and the State Minister, Mr. V. G. Lordkipanidze.

At the meetings, which took place in a friendly and businesslike atmosphere, current problems in the prospects for bilateral relations were discussed, and an exchange of views was held on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Noting the progressive development of bilateral relations between Georgia and Kazakhstan, the sides expressed their support for the broadening and deepening of such relations with a view to making full use of existing potential, particularly in the area of the economy, which was the domain of the Intergovernmental Georgian-Kazakh Cooperation Commission. The sides agreed to hold a meeting of the Commission in Astana in March 1999.

The sides noted the importance of creating a Europe-Caucasus-Asia transport corridor and restoring the Great Silk Route in order to ensure the successful development of the economies of the countries of the southern Caucasus and Central Asia and their integration into the world community, and expressed their intention to engage in all-round cooperation and interaction to carry out that project.

The sides once again confirmed their commitment to the instruments signed at the International Conference on the Development of a Europe-Caucasus-Asia Transport Corridor, held in Baku on 8 September 1998.

The Georgian side supported Kazakhstan's initiative to restore ferry service from the port of Aktau and to use that port as one of the main points for Caspian Sea trade.

The sides reaffirmed their commitment to the provisions of the Memorandum of 11 November 1997 between Georgia and Kazakhstan on Cooperation in the Transport of Hydrocarbons to International Markets, and noted the need to develop cooperation in that area.

The Georgian side expressed its readiness to allow the transit through its territory to third countries of hydrocarbons from Kazakhstan.

Noting the importance of regional and international cooperation, the sides stressed the need to step up efforts to intensify their partnership in this area. Kazakhstan supported Georgia's intention to join the Central Asian economic community as an observer.

The sides reaffirmed their readiness to continue to promote cooperation within the framework of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international organizations on the basis of the universally recognized norms of international law and in accordance with their legislation and national interests.

The sides reaffirmed that the common position of the two States with respect to prospects for developing the Commonwealth of Independent States, and stressed the need for the speedy reform of its statutory bodies and branch organs with a view to improving their work and achieving the practical implementation of decisions adopted within the framework of the Commonwealth.

Stressing the danger of aggressive separatism, which threatened international peace and stability, and their commitment to the basic principles of international law — territorial integrity and inviolability of State borders — the sides expressed concern that the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict had not been resolved and continued to be a source of tension in the region. They noted the need for the prompt settlement of the conflict through peaceful, political means.

Noting the unity of their views and approaches in the assessment of current threats and challenges to international and regional security and stability, and expressing their concern at the increasing number of acts of terrorism and violence, which posed a serious threat to the international community, the sides reaffirmed their willingness to cooperate with all countries and international organizations in efforts to combat that phenomenon.

State Minister of Georgia:
V. G. **Lordkipanidze**

Prime Minister of Kazakhstan:
N. U. **Balgimbaev**